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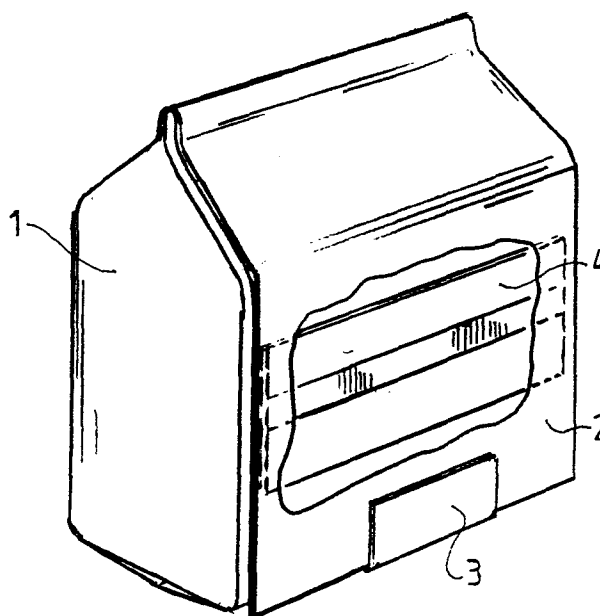
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⑤④ **Package for a consumer article.**

⑤⑦ The invention relates to a situation in which a merchant puts at a client's disposal an apparatus (9) for processing consumer articles (1) that are sold by him. The operation of the apparatus (9) is made dependent on the purchase of the consumer article (1) in question by making an element (4) releasing the operation of the apparatus (9) to form part of the package (2) so as to make operation of the apparatus (9) only possible with the unlocking element (4).

The unlocking element can take the form of a cardboard card (4) on which a magnetic strip (5) containing a code is applied. The apparatus may be a coffee making apparatus (9) comprising a device for reading the magnetic code of the card (4), releasing the coffee making process and for erasing the code.



**TITLE MODIFIED**  
**see front page**

Short title: Packing for a consumer article.

The invention relates to a packing of a consumer article and in particular to a packing of an article to be processed in an apparatus.

The invention relates to a situation in which a  
5 merchant puts at the client's disposal an apparatus for processing consumer articles that are sold by him.

The aim of the invention is to provide means to make the operation of the apparatus dependent on the purchase of the consumer article in question.

10 The aim is reached by an element releasing the processing of the apparatus forming part of the packing. The operation of the apparatus is only possible with the unlocking element enclosed with that specific packing.

The invention will now be described on the basis of  
15 an embodiment according to the accompanying drawing. In the drawing the figures show:

Fig. 1: a perspective view of the packing according to the invention, in which part of the packing is broken away;

20 Fig. 2: a perspective view of an unlocking element according to the invention;

Fig. 3: a schematic illustration of a code of an unlocking element according to the invention; and

Fig. 4: a perspective view of the coffee making apparatus according to the invention.

5 The packing shown in Fig. 1 consists of a bag 1 containing coffee, of which the flap 2 has been folded down and adhered to the underside of the bag by a piece of adhesive paper 3. Between the flap 2 of the bag and the part 10 of the bag in which the coffee is contained, a cardboard card 4 with a magnetic strip 5 has been inserted, which card can be seen by the broken away part of the flap 2.

In Fig. 2 the cardboard card 4 on which a magnetic strip 5 has been applied is shown. The part 6 of the magnetic 15 strip 5 contains a magnetic code, in the shape of alternate magnetized areas.

The part 6 of the magnetic strip 5 containing the code is shown enlarged in Fig. 3. Here, the areas 7 magnetized towards the south pole and the areas 8 magnetized 20 towards the north pole, which are shown shaded are clearly visible.

The width of the strip is 4,7 mm, the length of the part containing the code is 14 mm and the pitch of the magnetized areas is 0,5 mm.

25 In Fig. 4 a coffee making apparatus 9 is depicted. The coffee making apparatus comprises an aperture 10, through which the magnetic card 4 can be inserted. Behind the aperture a read-and-extinguish device is placed. The coffee making apparatus further comprises elements which are known 30 per se and which will therefore not be described here.

To put the coffee making apparatus into operation, the filter cup 11 of the coffee making apparatus has - after the application of a filter - to be filled with the amount of ground coffee which has been delivered in one packing 35 according to the invention. The water reservoir (not shown) has to be filled with water after removal of the lid 12 through the orifice which is then released. Subsequently an empty coffee pot 13 has to be placed on a warming hob 14

which is provided on the left hand side of the apparatus, and this warming hob has to be switched on by means of a switch which is placed on the front of the coffee making apparatus. Then the coffee making process is started by inserting the  
5 magnetic card 4 belonging to the packing into the aperture 10 which is intended therefore.

The card 4 is then read by a card-read-and-extinguish device (not shown) which is provided behind the aperture 10 wherein by a comparison circuit which is not  
10 depicted either, the code read by the card reader is compared with a code which has been inserted into the comparison circuit. When both codes correspond with each other the card is being extinguished by the card-read-and-extinguish device and is ejected through the aperture 10, while the comparison  
15 circuit switches on the heating element of the coffee making apparatus through which the coffee brewing process starts. When the codes do not correspond with each other, the magnetic card is ejected without switching on the heating element. Over the aperture 10 a control lamp 16 is provided  
20 which lights when said codes correspond with each other. On the right hand side of the switch 15 a control lamp 17 is provided, which lights during the coffee making process. After the termination of the coffee making process the coffee pot 13 is positioned onto a warming hob 18 on the right hand  
25 side which can be switched on by switch 19 which is provided on the right hand side of switch 15, so that a further coffee making process can be initiated.

C L A I M S

1. Packing for a consumer article to be processed in an apparatus, characterized in that an unlocking element releasing the processing of the apparatus forms part of the packing.
- 5           2. Packing according to claim 1, characterized in that the unlocking element is being made unfit for further use when releasing the processing of the apparatus.
3. Packing according to claim 1 or 2, characterized by the consumer article being tea or coffee and by the  
10 apparatus being a tea or coffee making apparatus.
4. Unlocking element for use with a packing according to one of the preceding claims characterized by the unlocking element bearing a code which is recognizable by the apparatus.
- 15           5. Unlocking element for use with a packing according to one of the preceding claims characterized in the unlocking element being a magnetic card.
6. Unlocking element according to claim 5, characterized by the element being coded according to Fig. 4.
- 20           7. Unlocking element according to claim 4, characterized by the code of the unlocking element being

extinguished during release.

8. Packing according to one of the claims 1 - 3, characterized in the unlocking element being attached to the packing.

9. Packing according to one of the claims 1 - 3,  
5 characterized in the unlocking element being inside the packing.

10. Packing according to one of the claims 1 - 3, characterized in the unlocking element being part of the packing.

10 11. Packing according to one of the claims 1 - 3, characterized in the packing containing a maintenance product for the apparatus.

12. Tea or coffee making apparatus comprising reading means for recognising the code of the unlocking  
15 element according to claim 6 and comprising means for releasing the processing.

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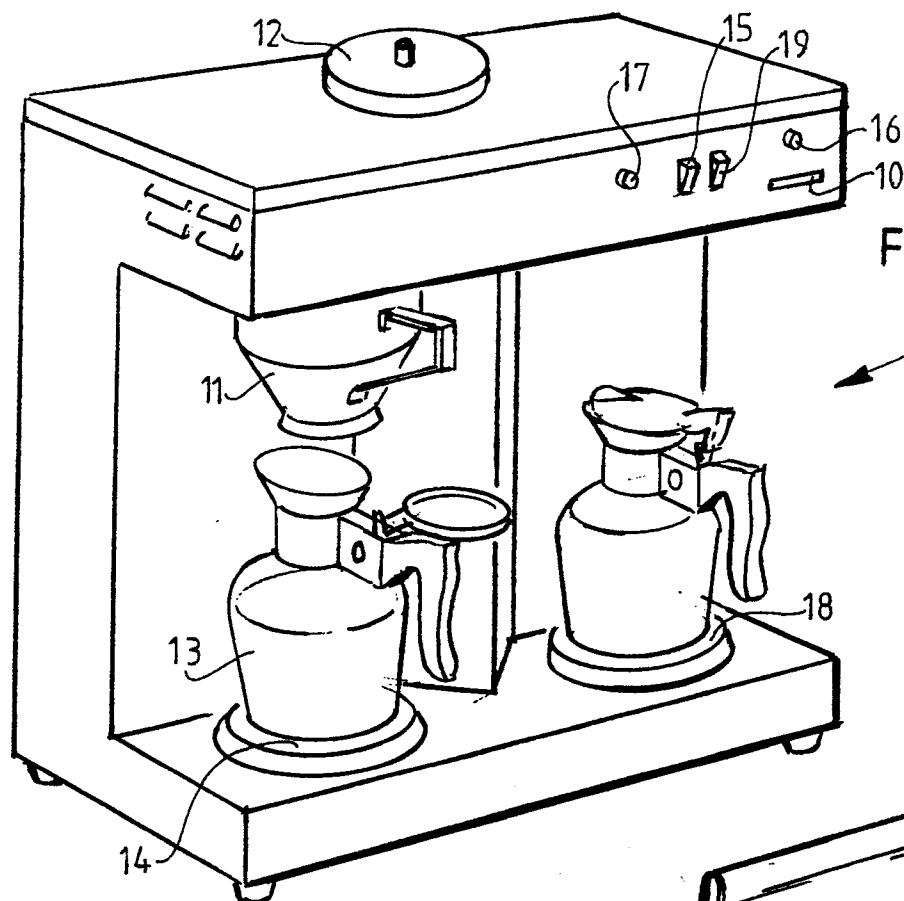


FIG. 4

FIG. 1

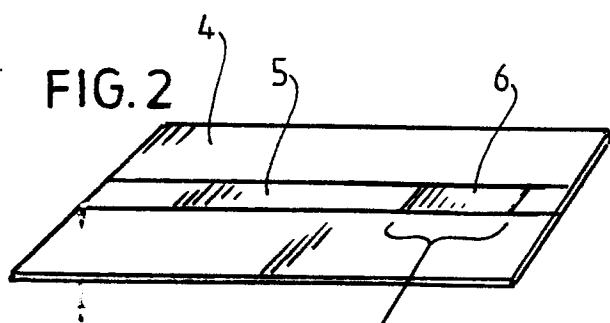
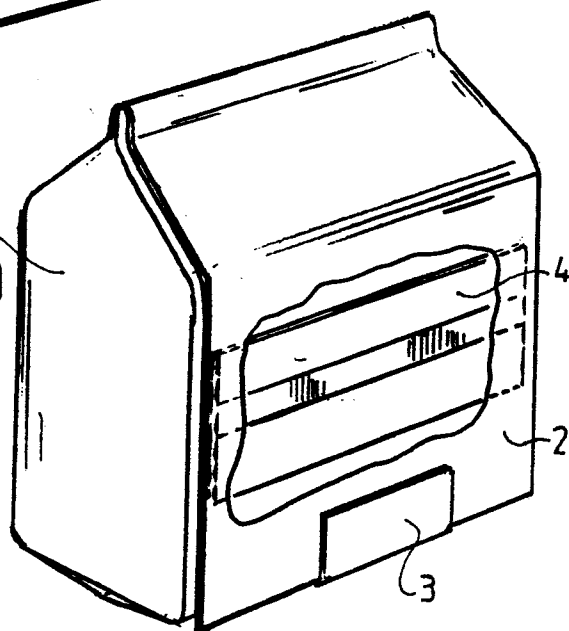


FIG. 2

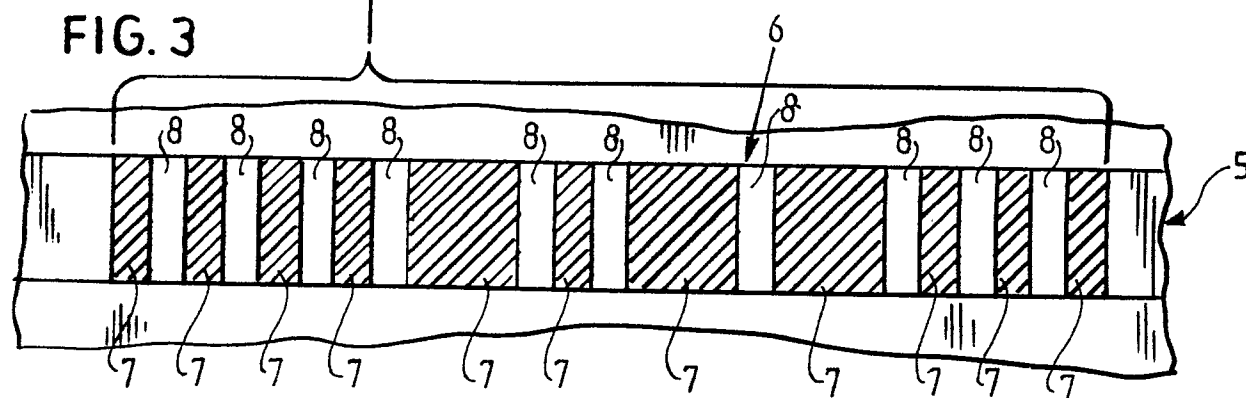


FIG. 3



European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0178013

Application number

EP 85 20 1569

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
X	CH-A- 458 099 (MAZURANIC-JANKOVIC)  * Column 2, line 35 - column 3, line 10; column 5, lines 34-50; figures 5,6,12 * ---	1,3,4, 8,10, 12	B 65 D 75/54 B 65 D 77/24 G 07 F 7/00 A 47 J 31/40
A	FR-A-1 445 447 (VARLEY) * Page 3, left-hand column, lines 3-37; page 3, right-hand column, lines 28-49; figures 1,3 * ---	2,4,5	
A	CH-A- 470 298 (FR. HESSER MASCHINENFABRIK) * Column 2, lines 15-37; figure 1 * ---	1,8	
A	EP-A-0 110 085 (MIJ. VAN BERKEL'S PATENT N.V.) * Figure 7 * ---	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	BE-A- 632 358 (MERKEL) * Page 5, lines 4-10; figures 1,2 *  -----	1,8	B 65 D A 47 J G 07 F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11-12-1985	Examiner BERRINGTON N.M.
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			